· COLORADO RIVER ·

AQUEDUCT NEWS

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Vol. V · DECEMBER 25, 1938 · No. 22

Season's Greetings



AN AQUEDUCT CHRISTMAS CARD

Typifying the setting through which hundreds of miles of the aqueduct have been constructed, this gnarled old desert tree and the time-worn rock greet the first rays of the sun on Christmas morning.

• COLORADO RIVER •
AQUEDUCT NEWS
THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

306 West Third St.
Los Angeles, California

Published monthly in the interest of Field and Office Workers on the Colorado River Aqueduct, and for the information of all other citizens of the Metropolitan **Water District**

Vol. V December 25, 1938 No. 22

Board Adopts Policy Of Treating Water For Domestic Use

Softened and filtered water is to be delivered through the Colorado River Aqueduct distributing system for domestic use in all of the cities of the Metropolitan Water District.

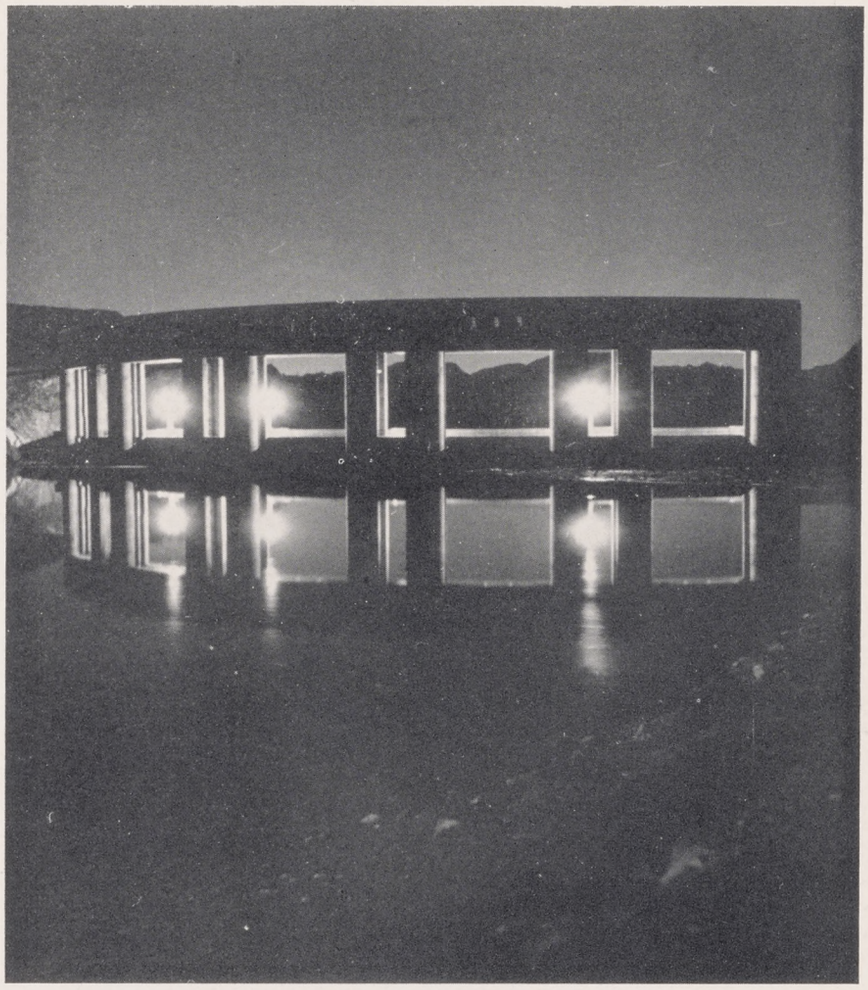
This is the official determination that has been made by the Board of Directors of the District. At a meeting of the Board held on December 16 a motion was made by Director Victor H. Rossetti, and approved by a vote of the Directors, that it be the policy of the District to deliver softened and filtered water for domestic use to each of the District cities.

A number of weeks ago the Board authorized the General Manager and Chief Engineer to proceed with the preparation of plans and specifications for a water softening and filtering plant. Acting on this authority, General Manager Weymouth retained the consulting firm of Hoover and Montgomery of Columbus, Ohio, to assist the District's staff engineers in the preparation of plans and specifications for the most modern and economical type of softening and filtering plant. Work on these specifications is now under way, and it is expected that plans will be completed early next year.

It is anticipated that the aqueduct water delivered to District cities for domestic and municipal purposes will be softer than the water now being served in almost all, if not all, of the District cities. In addition, this water will be filtered, and will therefore be entirely free of any trace of foreign or organic matter usually found in water supplies that are stored in surface reservoirs. With the exception of Beverly Hills, none of the District cities is now serving filtered water.

A site for a modern softening and

(*Continued on Page* 12.)



A night view of the upstream face of Parker Dam with its columns reflected in the still waters of Parker Lake. This interesting picture was taken by Si Perliter of the Design Division.

– DIRECTORY –

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

W. P. Whitsett, Chairman
Franklin Thomas, Vice-Chairman
S. H. Finley, Secretary

Anaheim.....E. P. Hapgood
Beverly Hills.....Arthur Taylor
Burbank.....J. L. Norwood
Compton.....Warren W. Butler
Fullerton .....Walter Humphreys
Glendale .....Herman Nelson
Long Beach.....William M. Cook
Los Angeles.....Perry H. Greer
Los Angeles.....Otto J. Emme
Los Angeles..Louis S. Nordlinger
Los Angeles.....D. W. Pontius
Los Angeles.....John R. Richards
Los Angeles....Victor H. Rossetti
Los Angeles.....W. P. Whitsett
Pasadena .....Franklin Thomas
San Marino.....John H. Ramboz
Santa Ana.....S. H. Finley
Santa Monica.....Arthur P. Creel
Torrance.....Charles T. Rippy
J. M. Luney, Controller
Ira R. Pontius, Treasurer

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General Manager and Chief Engineer.....F. E. Weymouth
Asst. Chief Engineer.....Julian Hinds
General Counsel.....James H. Howard
Asst. General Counsel.....Arthur A. Weber
Chief Elec. Engineer.....J. M. Gaylord
Asst. to Gen. Mgr., Don J. Kinsey
Secy. to Gen. Mgr.....Elisabeth von Hagen

DIVISION ENGINEERS

Distribution.....R. B. Diemer
Transmission....Robert N. Allen
Maintenance.....W. J. Neale

SUPERINTENDENTS OF CONSTRUCTION PUMPING PLANTS

Intake and Gene.....T. T. Walsh
Iron Mt. .....B. H. Martin
Eagle Mt. and Hayfield.....R. C. Booth

SUPERINTENDENTS

(Main Aqueduct Tunnels)

San Jacinto Tunnel, District Force Acct., B. C. Leadbetter, Gen. Supt.; S. J. Shrode and C. E. Sides, Tunnel Supts.; Chas. F. Thomas, Jr., Edwin Noon, Supts.; F. A. Backman, Gen. Foreman.

(Distribution Pipe Line)

Schedules 8C, 9C, 12C, Basich Bros., Nick Basich, Gen. Supt.

Schedules 21SC, 22SC, 23SC, J. F. Shea Co., Gilbert J. Shea, Gen. Mgr.; C. A. Shea, Jr., H. F. Rennebohm, Supts.

Schedules 24SC, 25SC, Emsco Derrick & Equipment Co.

Distribution Headworks, The Contracting Engineers Co.; Julian Huddelston, Supt.

Regular Operation Of Intake Plant to Start January 7

Culminating years of engineering and construction work, the first section of the 392-mile Colorado River Aqueduct will be placed in actual operation on Saturday, January 7, 1939, when the Intake pumping plant will be placed in regular operation.

Plans now being formulated by the District's Board of Directors and staff call for a celebration of this important event. The giant pumps will start turning over sometime between 1 P. M. and 3 P. M. on the afternoon of January 7, and the event will be broadcast by the Columbia Broadcasting System.

Members of the Board of Directors have already signified their intention of attending the celebration and of bringing official representatives of the District cities. The center of interest at this affair will be at the west portal of the Colorado River tunnel (the first tunnel on the aqueduct) where the first water from the Intake plant can be seen as it flows into the Gene Reservoir. Preparatory to the event, Tom Walsh's crews are giving the portal a nice clean coat of whitewash and are decorating it with appropriate flags and banners.

All preliminary tests on the motors, pumps, and appurtenant equipment at the Intake plant have already been completed under the direction of Chief Electrical Engineer, J. M. Gaylord. All units operated very satisfactorily during these preliminary tests which was a source of extreme gratification to both the District engineers and the various manufacturers who built the equipment. The operation of the five aqueduct pumping plants has aroused a great deal of interest in engineering circles throughout the country because of the fact that they represent one of the world's largest pumping installations.

The Intake plant (the greater part of which is now submerged beneath the surface of Parker Lake) will lift aqueduct water a total height of 291.1 feet and spill it into the Gene Wash reservoir. Three pumping units, each with a capacity of 200 cubic feet of water per second, have now been installed in the plant. When the aqueduct is in full operation, each pumping plant will have a total of nine of these giant pumping units.

Installation work is rapidly being completed at the Gene pumping plant.

Year 1938 Sees Completion of Major Aqueduct Construction

The year 1938 has seen the completion of the major part of construction work on the Colorado River Aqueduct, and has brought within striking distance the day when the dream of the thirteen cities of The Metropolitan Water District will become a reality.

That dream is one of an abundant, controlled, and everlasting water supply to meet the needs of these rapidly expanding cities which are located on the edge of The Great American Desert. For the past fifteen years the aqueduct builders and the citizens of the Water District have been engrossed in the tremendous job of building this great water supply system. Now, the people are coming to realize what its completion will mean in the history of the West. This conquest of Drought will be recorded as one of the great epics of the occupation of this western land which began on that distant day in 1540 when Hernando de Alarcon discovered the Colorado River.

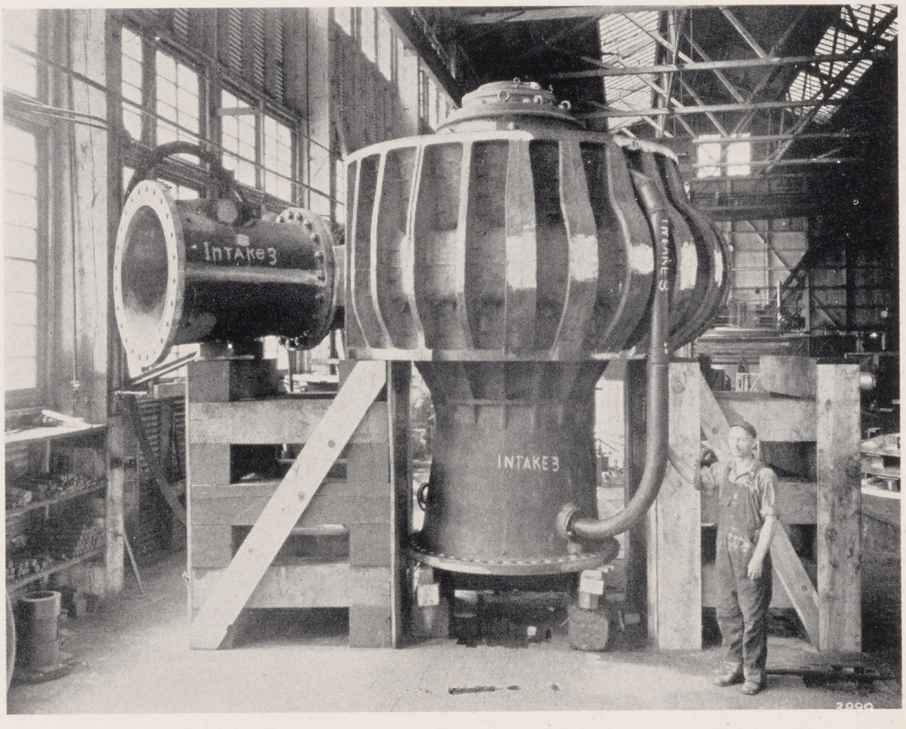
Future generations will be able to see clearly the precise pattern of this colorful panorama with its Spanish conquistadores and their search for the Golden Cities of Cibola, the coming of the padres, the early California rancheros, the "forty-niners," and finally the amazing migration of millions of people to this favored land of sunshine. Completing that picture, and making possible "a place in the sun" for this western empire, will be the story of Man's ability to overcome the deficiency of Nature by building an artificial river over hundreds of miles of deserts and mountains and thus importing the water that is so essential to his existence.

That picture will show that the fable of the cities of gold in the Desert of Cibola was a prediction and not just a dream. All this, to future generations, will be easily understood. But the 1938 citizens of "the thirteen golden cities" are still too close to the trees to see the forest.

However, the "trees" of the 1938 growth have in themselves been worthy of note and a review of the last twelve months reveals the importance of the period. Here are some of the major highlights in the 1938 Aqueduct history.

On December 29, 1937, the first concrete was placed in the 210-foot high Copper Basin Dam. Completed during 1938, this structure blocks the outlet of the Copper Basin and creates a reservoir with a storage capacity of 20,700 acre feet of water. The first aqueduct water

(*Continued on Page* 4.)



This is one of the huge Byron Jackson centrifugal pumps which will go into action when the Intake pumping plant begins operating on January 7. Picture shows the pump as it was assembled in the manufacturing plant.

90 Per Cent Mark Reached in 1938

(*Continued from Page* 3.)

will be pumped into this reservoir from the Gene pumping plant in the early part of 1939.

In the early part of 1938, the battle of San Jacinto tunnel was just reaching its most feverish pitch. On January 1, 1938, main tunnel excavation had not yet been started from the foot of the Lawrence adit; crews were working west from the Cabazon shaft; and on the Potrero side the hardrockers were battling their way through bad ground and heavy inflows of water. On that date 3.15 miles of the tunnel still remained to be excavated.

Parker Dam was just getting its head above the level of the Colorado River in January, 1938, and the progress records indicated that approximately 85 per cent of the concrete had then been placed.

Two important construction features were set under way in January. On the 12th of that month work was started on one of the world's largest fencing jobs when aqueduct contractors began the erection of the 152 miles of steel fences which now enclose reservoirs and canals on the main aqueduct and the Cajalco Reservoir on the distribution system.

On January 25, 1938, the first work was started on the Palos Verdes feeder of the distributing system. This important link in that system will supply aqueduct water to the District cities of Los Angeles, Compton, Torrance, and Long Beach. It brought construction of the 392-mile aqueduct system into the very heart of the metropolitan area which it will serve.

A testimonial to the competent engineering and construction methods by which the aqueduct has been constructed was brought to public attention by the floods in the first days of March, 1938. During the first two days of that month, Southern California was subjected to the most destructive floods that had been recorded in the preceding 61 years. It was estimated that the peak flow for all channels crossed by the upper feeder of the distribution system totaled 200,000 cubic feet of water per second. In spite of the destructive power of these roaring flood waters, there was no damage to any aqueduct structure.

On March 5, 1938, a major victory was celebrated over the "old man" of Mt. San Jacinto when the "plug" between headings Nos. 1 and 2 in the Potrero side of the tunnel was holed through. It had been necessary to detour around the bad ground in the locality of this plug via a pioneer tunnel and attack the area from both sides on the line of the main tunnel.

On March 4, 1938, the Board of Directors of the District accepted the bid of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation for $60,000,000 of Colorado River Aqueduct bonds. This amount provided sufficient funds to complete the financing of the aqueduct system.

On May 5, 1938, aqueduct construction crews completed the placing of concrete in the conduit under the highway and railroad east of Cabazon. There was less than 12 lineal feet of conduit arch placed in that last pour but it was a historic event, nevertheless, because it marked the completion of all conduits of the aqueduct and the completion of all contract open work on the 242-mile stretch from the Colorado River to the Cajalco Reservoir. This open work includes 62.8 miles of canals, 54.5 miles of conduits, and 28.7 miles of siphons. National interest was attracted to this part of the job because of the size and length of the various features, and the many types of unusual equipment devised especially for the work.

During this same period, the District accepted the buildings, delivery lines, and appurtenant works of the Intake, Gene, and Eagle Mountain pumping plants, and work was started on the construction of the distribution system headworks located at the Cajalco Reservoir.

On May 20, 1938, the Board of Directors reached an agreement with the R.F.C. whereby the District issued refunding bonds bearing an average interest rate of 4⅛ per cent in exchange for $200,000,000 of aqueduct bonds already sold to the R.F.C. and bearing an interest rate of 5 per cent. This refunding agreement will result during the next several years in an annual saving of $1,750,000 to the taxpayers of the District, and over the life of the bonds will result in a total saving of approximately $62,500,000.

The month of June saw the completion of the building of the 152 miles of aqueduct fences, involving the erection of more than 4,848,000 pounds of steel.

The big event of July, and one of the major events in the construction of the entire project, was the placing of Parker Dam in operation. The final closure of the second diversion tunnel was completed at 9:29 A. M. on July 1, 1938, and the first water went through the five giant gates of the dam at 7:32 P. M. on that mid-summer day.

On the same day the Board of Directors authorized General Manager Weymouth to proceed with the $7,000,000 worth of construction work required to complete the initial development of the distribution system.

As though given impetus by these two events, other features began to be chalked up on the completed side of the ledger with increasing rapidity.

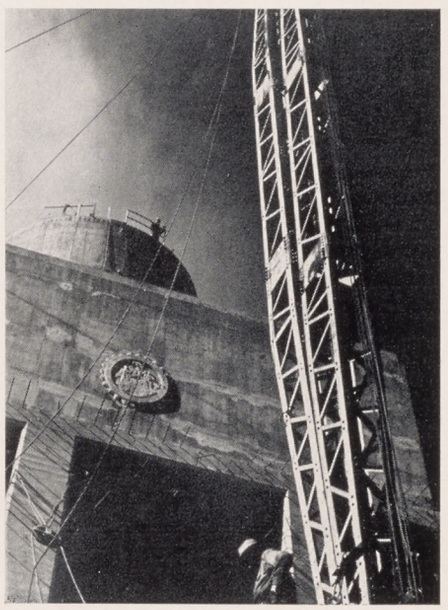
On July 12, completion notices were filed for San Rafael tunnels Nos. 1 and 2, and Monrovia tunnel No. 4, all on the distributing system, and on July 21, all contract work was completed on the Hayfield pumping plant.

Still another July event was the holing through of the Cabazon-Lawrence leg of the San Jacinto tunnel on the 28th of that month.

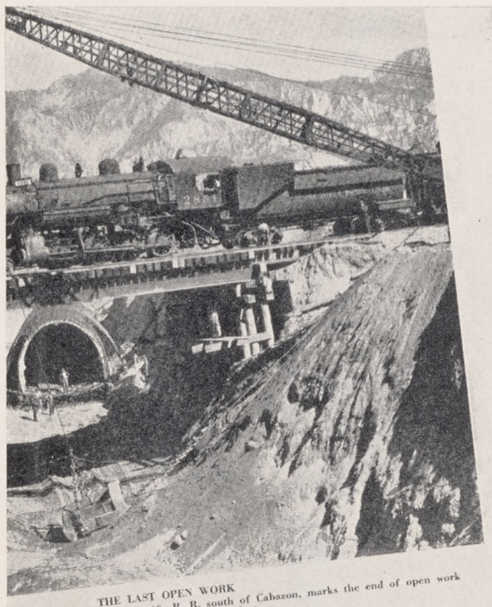
The Gene Wash and Copper Basin dams were accepted on August 15, and the completion notice was filed on October 11 for Monrovia tunnel No. 3, the last major tunnel on the distributing system.

And, still fresh in memory, is the most important event of the year, the final holing through of the 13-mile San Jacinto tunnel on November 19.

As this issue of the NEWS goes to press, the big job is more than 90 per cent completed. The first aqueduct operation will start within a few days (January 7, 1939) when the Intake pumping plant goes into action. Even though the observer still cannot see the forest because of the trees, he may look back at the "trees" that have been notched in 1938, and count it as a good job, well done.



An odd angle of the surge chamber at the top of the Eagle Mt. pump lift as taken by Ben Oliver Hicks in March, 1938.



THE LAST OPEN WORK
, under the Southern Pacific R. R. south of Cabazon, marks the end of open work construction on the main aqueduct.

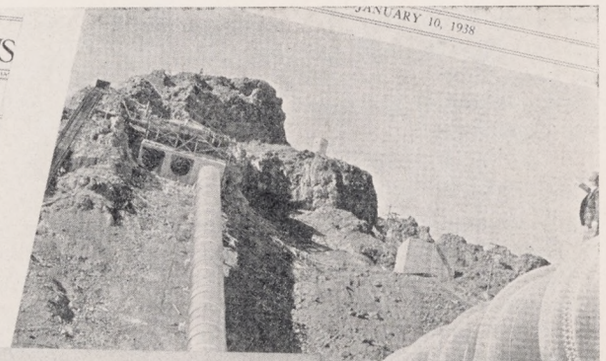
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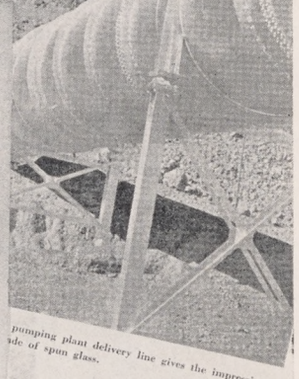
Vol. V January 25, 1938 Nc

M.W.D. Expenditur For 1938 Estimate At $40,000,000

Estimates prepared by the staf ection under the direction of C Manager Weymouth indicate th istrict will expend approximatel 0,000 for construction purposes year of 1939.

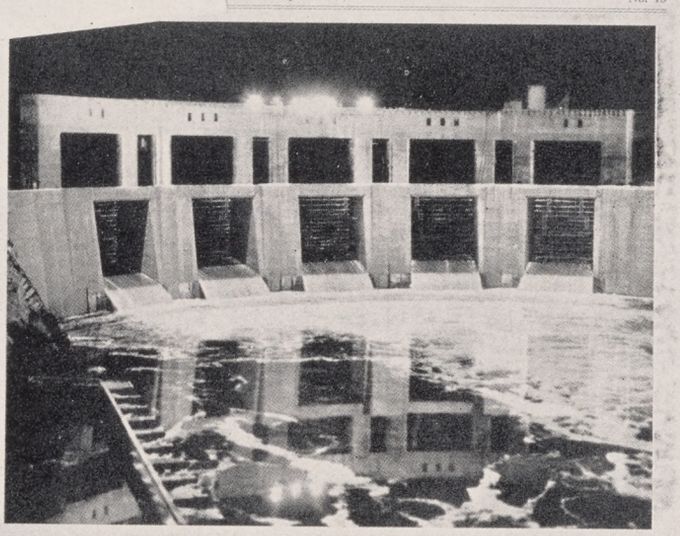


JANUARY 10, 1938



pumping plant delivery line gives the impression that ade of spun glass.

COLORADO RIVER ·
DUCT NEWS
ISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
JULY 15, 1938 No. 13



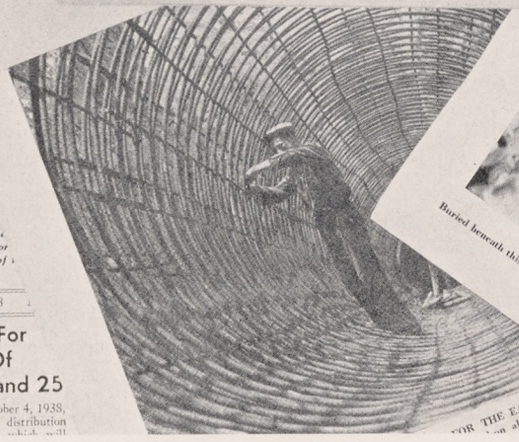
First Water Flows Through Parker Dam Gates, 7:32 P. M., July 1, 1938.



COPPER BASIN DAM

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT
Vol. V
NOVEMBER





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306 West Thir
Los Angeles, Cali

Published twice monthly b of Field and Office Workers rado River Aqueduct, and for mation of all other citizens of politan Water District.

Vol. 5 October 10, 1938

Bids Opened For Construction Of Schedules 24 and 25

Bids were opened on October 4, 1938, for the construction of distribution

FOR THE EAGLE ROCK C
can also serves as the
Distribution System.



Buried beneath this swarm of hardrockers and spectators is the pile of brok
IT'S HOLED THROUGH
Jaime Tunnel

CHAPTERS IN THE 1938 HISTORY OF THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE COLORADO RIVER AQUEDUCT

Reproduced above are a few of the pages from the files of the "Aqueduct News" illustrating some of the important events that have taken place on the aqueduct during the year 1938.

EMPLOYMENT

Methods used in the employment of the 35,000 people who have been hired in connection with the construction of the Colorado River Aqueduct.

By N. F. JAMIESON
Employment Officer, M.W.D.

Employment on a project 350 miles long, covering all branches of construction from camps, open ditches, conduits, tunnels, roads, water works, dams, reservoirs, power lines, to pumping plants and pipe lines, with living and climatic conditions to be considered, is a problem of no small magnitude. However, the solution can be more easily understood if it is approached under three main divisions, viz: (First), Requirements of the District; (Second), Division into classes of positions to be filled; and, (Third), The Merit System (prescribed in an ordinance of the Board of Directors governing the selection of employees for appointment.)

Requirements of the District:

(First), "To be eligible for employment a person must be a bona fide resident of the District for the year preceding date of employment." (Second), "Not more than one member from a household shall be employed by the District." (Third), "All applicants must pass a medical examination before being accepted for employment." (Fourth), "Preference shall be given to ex-service men with dependents, where qualified."

Classification of Positions to Be Filled:

Class A. Chemical, Civil, Electrical, Mining, Mechanical, Structural, and Sanitary Engineers, Hydrographers, Attorneys, Physicians.

Class B. Clerical and Accounting: Accountants, Auditors, Bookkeepers, Costkeepers, General Storekeepers, Secretaries, Stenographers.

Engineering: Draftsmen, Estimators, Computers, Instrumentmen, Topographers, Inspectors.

General: Assistant Right-of-Way Solicitors, Title Searchers and Escrow Officers, Public Information Agents, Assistant Personnel Officers and Investigators, Accident Investigators and Claim Adjusters, Trained Nurses.

Class C. Clerical and Accounting: General Clerks, Typists, Comptometer Operators, Bookkeeping Machine Operators, Junior Costkeepers, File Clerks, Storekeepers, Storekeepers' Assistants, Telephone Operators, Timekeepers, Messengers.

General: Stewards, Watchmen, Janitors, Conductors, Chauffeurs.

Engineering: Chainmen, Rodmen, Recorders.

Class D. Skilled Trades: Positions, the duties of which require ability or skill in a trade, craft, or useful art, or special manual or mechanical training.

General Construction: Electrical Assistants, Electricians, Foremen, Chief Dragline and Chief Steam Shovel Operators, Powerhouse and Pumping Station Chief Operators, Superintendents, and Master Mechanics.

Methods of Selecting Applicants by Merit System:

On August 7, 1931, the Board of Directors adopted an Ordinance prescribing a Merit System to govern the selection of employees for appointment. Under this system the ability and fitness of the applicant is determined by a rating under the following four general qualifications with a predetermined weight in each class as shown. To be eligible for appointment, an applicant must receive a rating of not less than 60 on education and experience combined and not less than 60 on references, and an average rating of not less than 75 for all qualifications. The weights to be given each qualification under each of the several classes listed are as follows:

	Class A	Class B	Class C	Class D
1. Education	30	20	10	5
2. Experience	30	30	40	50
3. Character and Personality	25	30	20	10
4. Physical Condition	15	20	40	35

Education: Credits for education will be allowed for each year of work satisfactorily completed under each of the several classes as tabulated in Schedule 1 up to the limits shown by the figures in parentheses:

SCHEDULE 1

	Class A	Class B	Class C	Class D
Common school (8 years)	0	2(16)	8(64)	10(80)
High School or equivalent (4 yrs)	4(16)	16(64)	4(16)	5(20)
College or equivalent, (4 years)	18(72)	4(16)	4(16)	0
Maximum possible	(88)	(96)	(96)	(100)

In lieu of any high school or college credits not attained under Schedule 1 but in no case in excess of the limits shown therein, applicants may be given credits for other satisfactorily completed work as shown in Schedule 1-A.

SCHEDULE 1-A

High School Credits:	Class A	Class B	Class C
Business College per term	0	8	2
Correspondence school Courses completed—			
Accounting	0	32	8
General	0	32	8
College Credits:			
Normal college per year	0	4	4
Technical correspondence school course completed	36	8	8
Business college or secretarial course in addition to 4-year high school course, per year	0	2	2
Maximum possible under Schedule 1-a	36	32	8

Experience: Maximum credits for experience in work of an identical character will be allowed as shown under each of the several classes listed below. In lieu of credits for identical work proportionate credits will be allowed for similar or related work.

SCHEDULE 2

	Class A	Class B	Class C	Class D
Over 10 years	95	—	—	—
6 to 10 years	90	95	—	—
3 to 5 years	80	90	95	85
2 years	70	80	85	80
1 year	60	70	70	70
Graduate university	60	70	85	—
Graduate high school	0	60	75	—
Apprenticeship	—	—	—	60

Character and Personality: Ratings will be determined from reference letters from former employers on forms furnished by the District, advising as to employee's character, initiative, ability, personality, and judgment; and upon personal interview. Each of these attributes will be further subdivided into the following classifications: poor, fair, good, and exceptionally good. Poor will have a rating of 50; fair, 65, good, 80; and exceptionally good, 90. These ratings will be given relative weight in making up the final rating as follows:

SCHEDULE 3

	Class A	Class B	Class C	Class D
Iniative	20	25	30	15
Ability	30	30	30	60
Personality	20	30	30	10
Judgment	30	15	10	15

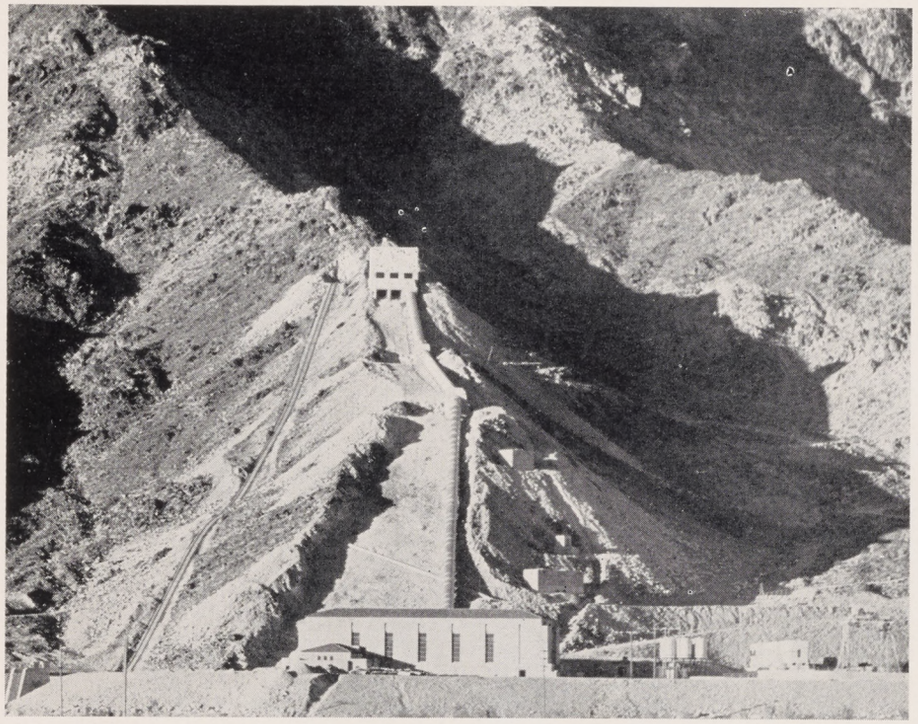
Average ratings will be made on education, experience, and personality and character, and if the average rating on these classifications is over 75, and if the applicant is selected for appointment he will then be required to pass a medical examination.

Physical Condition: Medical examination must demonstrate that the employee is physically able to perform the duties to which he would be assigned if employed.

District Takes Over Employment Problem on May 1, 1930

On May 1, 1930, the District took over control and operation of the Colorado River Aqueduct Project from the Department of Water and Power, City of Los Angeles, which Department had been carrying on engineering and surveys for a period of eight years. At the time of the District's assuming control, many of the employees who had been working on the project for the City were incorporated into the District's organization.

Thereafter, in the conduct of its affairs relating to employment, the District acted in accordance with the provisions of The Metropolitan Water District Act, which provides that "the Board of Directors shall have the power



A recent picture of the Hayfield pumping plant. Located 126 aqueduct miles west of the Colorado River, this is the last of the five pump lifts on the aqueduct. Pumping into the east portal of Hayfield tunnel No. 1, this plant will lift water 441 feet.

Mr. & Mrs. Weymouth Return to Los Angeles On December 7, 1938

General Manager Weymouth and his bride, the former Barbara Turner, returned to Los Angeles on December 7, following their marriage in Honolulu on November 10. The following letter, dated December 8, 1938, is addressed to the employees of the Metropolitan Water District:

"Mr. Weymouth and I were delighted to receive the handsome silver tray which you, the members of the Employees Association, so kindly sent to us today. It will most certainly hold a place of honor in our home, particularly as a lasting expression of your gracious thoughts for us.

"Please know how very much we appreciate such a beautiful gift, and accept our sincere thanks.

"Cordially yours,

"MRS. FRANK E. WEYMOUTH."

Mr. and Mrs. Weymouth are making their home at the Chapman Park Hotel in Los Angeles.

District Dinner Dance Planned for February 11, 1939

Gene Reynolds, president of the M.W.D. Employees Association, announces that all aqueduckers and their families are requested to reserve the evening of Saturday, February 11, 1939, for a District employees dinner dance.

Although plans are still in the formulative stage, the Board of Control of the Employees Association believe that a large attendance is to be expected for this party which will carry the Valentine's Day motif. Gene has appointed a committee to report back to the Board of Control early in January as to the proposed location, and cost. Due to the fact that the largest number of District employees are now located in the Los Angeles area, it has been suggested that the party be held in a hotel in the metropolitan area.

Employees who have any definite ideas on the location or type of party are invited to present their suggestions to Gene Reynolds, either at his headquarters in the L. A. Garage or by addressing a letter to him in care of the District main office.

Plans Completed for District Float in Rose Tournament

Following its usual custom, the Metropolitan Water District will enter a float in the Tournament of Roses at Pasadena to be held on January 2, 1939.

Because it is the 50th anniversary of the famous Rose Tournament, the 1939 festival has already attracted more than the usual interest. From the District's standpoint, the first celebration of the new year is also of particular interest because of the fact that 1939 will see the Colorado River Aqueduct placed in operation.

The M.W.D. float for the 1939 parade will be one of the largest ever entered by the District. Titled "Vision of the Golden Cities," the float will picture a Spanish conquistador of the 16th century as he gazes into the future and dreams of the cities to be built in this western land. Represented in roses will be Parker Dam and the spires and towers of the thirteen cities that comprise the Water District. More than 10,000 roses will be required to decorate the float which will be 52 feet long.

"THIRTEEN GOLDEN CITIES" NEW DISTRICT MOTION PICTURE HAS OFFICIAL PREVIEW

The District's newest talking motion picture, "The Thirteen Golden Cities," had its first showing before the Board of Directors and aqueduct employees at an official preview at the Pacific Electric Club Theater in Los Angeles on December 14.

Presenting an authentic motion picture story of the Colorado River Aqueduct project upon a background of California's romantic and colorful history, the new film is designed to give a vivid and complete record of the aqueduct and the people who built it.

Requiring approximately 25 minutes to show, the new picture is now available for showing in theaters and to various schools, civic, service, and patriotic groups throughout Southern California. After the holiday season it is planned to show the film to District employees in Banning and in the camps on the main aqueduct.

The film is available in both 35 mm and 16 mm prints. Representative organizations in District cities or in other Southern California communities who desire showings of the film may secure information about it by contacting the District at its Los Angeles headquarters.



Because of its unusual rock formation, the East Portal of the Coxcomb tunnel was the most photographed tunnel job on the aqueduct during the heavy construction period. This is how it looks today with the completed canal and transition sections leading into it.

National Engineering Publication Devotes Entire Issue to Aqueduct

In devoting the entire edition of the November 24, 1938, issue of the Engineering News-Record to the Colorado River Aqueduct, the editors of the nationally known publication stated:

"The record presented in this issue is that of an undertaking without peer in the history of construction—for conception, for plan, and for execution. Only the boldest imagination could dream of lifting a river over more than a quarter-mile of mountain height and carrying it across two hundred miles of desert. Only the highest financial courage could command the huge sums to make such a dream come true. Engineering difficulties match those of conception and finance, but all were faced and met, in the designing office.

"The incentive that inspired the dream and its realization was knowledge that the Colorado River water was the last that could be obtained to supply the southern California slopes. The work is an enduring monument to every man who had a part in it.

"Because the project has been one of the largest, most diversified and most difficult engineering undertakings in history, it has required a superior engineering organization. Nothing less than an able, loyal staff, imbued with high ideals and working together as a unit for a common cause, could have completed such a formidable job with the speed and efficiency attained.

"This issue, written by the men in responsible charge of this great undertaking, brings these difficulties and their solutions back to life. It contains lessons and inspiration for construction men everywhere."

Containing one of the most authentic and complete records yet to be published of the entire Colorado River Project, the November 24 issue of Engineering News-Record describes all of the features of the work.

In addition to a lead article written by General Manager Weymouth, the magazine contains other articles written by the following members of the District staff: Asst. Chief Engineer Julian Hinds; former Assistant General Manager J. L. Burkholder; B. C. Leadbetter, general superintendent of the San Jacinto tunnel; Chief Electrical Engineer J. M. Gaylord; Distribution Engineer R. B. Diemer; Senior Engineer L. V. Branch, and Engineer D. B. Gumensky.

Bids To Be Opened For Reservoir and Distribution Lines

Opening of bids for the construction of the Palos Verdes reservoir, Specifications No. 289, and for the Compton, Torrance, and Long Beach laterals, Specifications No. 293, which were to be opened on December 9 and 12 respectively, has been postponed until December 23 and 27 respectively.

Other bids which have been recently opened include the following:

Specifications No. 296, bids for which were opened on November 28, for furnishing 35,000 barrels, plus or minus, of sulphate resistant portland cement to be used in distribution system construction. Low bid was $50,400 submitted by Monolith Portland Cement Co.

Specifications No. 298, bids opened on December 14, for furnishing 90,000 tons, plus or minus, of concrete aggregates for concrete lining of the San Jacinto tunnel and adjacent siphon. Low bidder was Consolidated Rock Products Co., with a bid of $46,500.

Specifications No. 297, on which bids were opened on December 20, for furnishing approximately 230 tons of coal-tar enamel, 1,000 gallons of primer, and 80 gallons of thinner for steel pipe line construction on the distribution system. The apparent low bid was submitted by the Barrett Company, the net price being $8,999.71.



The new ornamental lights recently installed on Parker Dam. Lost in contemplation of the wonders of Man and Nature (lower right) is Alan Patten of the Legal Division.